

needs of many veterans. It is only appropriate that those brave men and women who placed themselves in harms way overseas be represented by such an able organization. The members of Post No. 5933 have been receiving just such outstanding service for 50 years now. It is comforting to know that those who served the needs of our country and fought for the principles and ideals of America all over the globe can depend on the support of an organization like Post 5933 back home in upstate New York.

Mr. Speaker, the service of Post 5933 in Ghent is worthy of significant recognition. This post, and others like it, are the reason I fought so hard to attain Department-level status for Veterans Affairs. When Ronald Reagan signed that legislation into law, veterans were finally afforded the degree of national consideration they deserve. The efforts of VFW posts like this one, Mr. Speaker, having served the needs of veterans since 1946, assured veterans the assistance and recognition they deserved prior to approval of this Government Department, and continue to encourage fair consideration of veterans' issues. For this, Mr. Speaker, we owe Post 5933 a tremendous debt of gratitude.

The famous historian George Santayana once said, "Those who do not remember history are bound to repeat it." VFW posts all across America have not forgotten the past or those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I ask all Members in the House to rise in tribute to VFW Post 5933 and join me in saluting all the members, past and present, on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

FREDERIKI PAPPAS AND HER ART EXHIBIT CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 1996*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to highlight an important event that is taking place this week in Washington. This event celebrates 175 years of friendship, diplomacy, and mutual respect for democracy that is the legacy of the United States and the Republic of Greece. The renowned Greek artist, Ms. Frederiki Pappas is previewing a remarkable collection of portraits of American and Greek leaders today in the Capitol. This exhibit is called: "A Celebration of Democracy: Commemorating 175 Years of Greek and American Democratic Tradition."

Ms. Pappas is a graduate of the Athens School of Fine Art and has exhibited in galleries around the world and has been commissioned by many private clients and public institutions. I have known her for many years and have come to admire her inexhaustible energy and vision in showcasing the history of courage and triumph of our two great nations.

I remind my colleagues that Americans participated in the independence movement in Greece during the last century, sacrificing their lives to ensure that the world's first democracy was again a democracy. From the days of our great leader and democratic visionary, Thomas Jefferson, to the present, Hellenes and

Americans have worked and fought side-by-side for freedom and independence.

As a Greek-American, I am especially proud of this tradition and applaud the continued strength of our mutual diplomatic ties as exemplified by this week's visit by President Constantine Stephanopoulos. The Hellenic Republic remains a key ally and friend and I am especially pleased that Ms. Pappas' exhibit coincides with President Stephanopoulos' visit. Her work serves as a beautiful and appropriate reminder of this long and great friendship between our two democratic nations.

Thomas Jefferson, perhaps underscores the spirit of freedom and independence best in his letter to A. Korais, leader of the Provisional Government of Greece in 1823 in which he states:

Possessing ourselves the combined blessings of liberty and order we wish the same to other countries, and to none more than yours, which the first of civilized nations, presented examples of what man should be.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Pappas' work reminds us of the importance of tradition and mutual love of freedom. I urge all of my colleagues to see if firsthand and reflect upon the importance of celebrating democracy.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR KENSUKE FUKUSHIMA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 1996*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Mayor Kensuke Fukushima and his delegation from the city of Fukaya, Japan, to the city of Fremont, CA, in California's 13th Congressional District. Mayor Fukushima and his delegation are here to help celebrate the founding of the city of Fremont, Fukaya's sister city, over 40 years ago. I would also like to commend Mayor Fukushima for his dedication to the sister-city program.

The city of Fukaya and the city of Fremont have been sister cities for the past 16 years and the relationship has been a very important one. We have many successful programs with Fukaya, including the arts exchange, the symphony exchange, teacher and student exchanges, little league baseball, Boy Scouts, business exchange, family exchanges, and the city employee exchange. These exchanges have resulted in deep personal friendships and a greater understanding between our two cultures and communities.

We owe much of the success of the sister-city program to Mayor Kensuke Fukushima. He has been a driving force since the very beginning. He was the contact citizen between the city of Fremont and the city of Fukaya prior to the formal sister-city relationship and continued to be active in the program as he held various positions in his city government. Mayor Fukushima has been mayor of the city of Fukaya for the past 8 years and has continued to be a strong advocate for the program throughout his term.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in welcoming Mayor Fukushima and the Japanese delegation to the city of Fremont and in recognizing Mayor Fukushima for his extraordinary efforts in

bringing our two cities and communities closer together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 1996*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that on April 18, 1996, the House voting system did not record my vote on roll-call vote 125, final passage of the rule governing debate on the antiterrorism bill.

At the time the vote was held, I was on the floor of the House, having just voted against ordering the previous question.

It was my intent to vote for passage of the rule. Unfortunately, my vote was not properly recorded. I would ask the RECORD to reflect my presence in the Chamber and my intent to vote for passage of the rule.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 641, RYAN WHITE CARE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow colleagues today in support of the Ryan White CARE Act conference report. Additionally, I would like to extend my appreciation to the conference team, chairmen BILEY and DINGELL, and subchairmen BILIRAKIS and WAXMAN for all their hard work to see this legislation through fruition.

I also come forward today for the thousands of men, women, and children whose lives depend on the continuation of the services provided under the Ryan White CARE Act. This legislation is essential to the AIDS community. Ryan White CARE provides people living with AIDS a tool to obtain emergency care services. Ryan White CARE gives the support needed to provide AIDS patients to live their lives to its fullest potential.

Specifically, this bill requires recipients of CARE grants to utilize a portion of their funds to provide health services to women, infants, and children. This bill aims to serve all individuals infected with the AIDS virus, but acknowledges the growing number of infants and children infected with the virus. With advancements in research to deter the virus in infants, the bill targets our future—our children.

The reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act sends another important message. We have worked in a bipartisan manner to ensure passage of this essential legislation. This legislation is an act of simple compassion and humanity that anyone and everyone can support.

I have been a supporter of the Ryan White CARE Act since its inception, and I hope that future Congress will continue to promote its services in future Congresses. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.